CLAIMS

1.   A multitrack optical disc reader comprising a multitrack optical pick up for reading data from multiple tracks of an optical disc and outputting
5   the data from each track in respective data streams; and a memory bank in which first-in-first-out (FIFO) buffers for temporarily storing data from the respective data streams may be dynamically defined.

2.   A disc reader according to claim 1 which is able to use less than
10   the maximum number of tracks that can be read by the pickup.

3.   A disc reader according to claim 2 wherein, when less than the maximum possible number of tracks that can be read by the pickup are being used, at least one of the FIFO buffers is defined to have a size greater than
15   the total FIFO memory that can be defined in the memory bank divided by the maximum number of tracks that can be read by the pickup.

4.   A disc reader according to claim 2 or claim 3 wherein, when less than the maximum possible number of tracks that can be read by the pickup
20   are being used, only FIFO buffers for data streams for those tracks used are defined.

5.   A disc reader according to claim 4 wherein each of the FIFO buffers defined has a size equal to the total FIFO memory that can be defined
25   in the memory bank divided by the number of tracks being used.